

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00121 112031Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 NSC-05 EB-07 OMB-01 /073 W
-----112107Z 009143 /63

R 111819Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1063
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
ASD/ENFE WPAFB OHIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0121

OASD FOR I&L, MR. JOHN NOLAN; USAFE FOR MAJOR DOUGLAS
WHITE, LGSF; WRIGHT PATTERSON FOR LT COL JOH ANDREWS.

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: AGARD REPORT ON FUTURE FUELS FOR AVIATION

REFSQFCPO/\$41, 10 JAN 77; (B) AGARD REPORT AR-93.

1. REF A HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED AND IS QUOTED BELOW:

BEGIN TEXT:

THE ADVISORY GROUP FOR AEROSPACE RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT (AGARD) HAS PUBLISHED A REPORT ON FUTURE FUELS FOR
AVIATION UNDER THE REFERENCE AGARD - AR -93.

2. THE REPORT PROVIDES A NATO-WIDE SURVEY OF THE FUTURE
AVAILABILITY AND PRICE OF AVIATION FUELS, AND A DISCUSSION OF
VARIOUS FACTORS WHICH HAVE SOME INFLUENCE ON THESE; IT ALSO
IDENTIFIES A NUMBER OF FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES WHICH MIGHT BE
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PAGE 02 NATO 00121 112031Z

PURSUED BY THE AGARD. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS CONCLUDED THAT TWO
TYPES OF STANDING COMMITTEES ARE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE
VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS FOR SAFEGUARDING AVIATION'S FUEL INTERESTS:

(A) COMMITTEES WHICH REPRESENT AVIATION'S FUEL NEEDS TO
THE RELEVANT TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL SECTORS OF THE
NATO COUNTRIES AT A POLICY MAKING LEVEL;

(B) TECHNICAL COMMITTEES FOR CONSTANTLY EVALUATING THE
CHANGING FUEL CHOICES OPEN TO AVIATION AND PROVIDING

GUIDANCE ON THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO
EXPLOIT OPPORTUNITIES THAT APPEAR.

3. BEFORE ACCEPTING THE NEED FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES,
I BELIEVE IT IS APPROPRIATE TO ASK THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY (AC/297) TO SOLICIT THE ADVICE OF ITS
WORKING GROUP NO. 4 ON FUELS. ACCORDINGLY, I PROPOSE THAT THE
AGARD REPORT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF AC/297(WG.4)
AND THAT ITS VIEWS SHOULD BE SOUGHT ON THE ACTIONS PROPOSED.

4. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE THE SILENT PROCEDURE IS
APPROPRIATE, SO THAT UNLESS OBJECTIONS ARE RECEIVED FROM
DELEGATIONS BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON 25TH JANUARY, 1977, THE
COUNCIL WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE APPROVED THE COURSE OF ACTION
I PROPOSE. (SIGNED) P. PANSA CEDRONIO
END TEXT.

2. OUR READING OF REF B INDICATES IT TO BE A
SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF AVAILABILITY AND USEFULNESS OF POST-
FOSSIL FUELS, A SUBJECT FAR BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY OR ITS
WORKING GROUP FOUR ON FUELS. THIS APPEARS EVIDENT FROM
THE FOLLOWING QUOTE FROM PARA 3 (AVIATION FUELS) OF THE
REPORT:

BEGIN QUOTE:
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PAGE 03 NATO 00121 112031Z

IN THE NEAR TERM (1985-1995) SYNCRUDE FUELS WILL
FIND THEIR WAY INTO THE AVIATION INDUSTRY, PERHAPS IN
LOCAL MARKETS, AS BLENDS WITH PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, OR
UNBLENDED. IN THE LONG TERM (BEYOND 1995) SYNCRUDES
WILL PROBABLY BE A PRIME SOURCE OF AVIATION FUEL.
BECAUSE OF THE LONG LEAD TIME REQUIRED TO INTRODUCE
CHANGES IN PRODUCTION ENGINES AND AIRFRAMES (10-15 YEARS)
THE ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED IN THESE UNITS FOR USE WITH
SYNCRUDES NEEDS TO BE KNOWN BY 1982.

THE CRYOGENIC FUELS, LIQUID HYDROGEN AND LIQUIFIED
NATURAL GAS HAVE THEIR PROPONENTS. THE USE OF THESE
FUELS REQUIRES LARGE CHANGES IN AIRPLANE DESIGN AND
OPERATION AND IN THE HANDLING OF THE FUEL.

OTHER ALTERNATE FUELS SUCH AS METAL POWDERS, SLURRIES
OF METAL POWDERS IN JET FUEL AND METAL HYDRIDES ARE NOT
CONSIDERED HERE SINCE THEIR EXPERIMENTAL USE IN AVIATION
GAS TURBINES HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING AND THEIR COST IS
EXCESSIVE. ONLY MAGNESIUM AND MAGNESIUM SLURRY PERFORMED
WELL, BUT ITS USE IS ADVANTAGEOUS ONLY UNDER VERY SPECIAL
CIRCUMSTANCES AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A MEANINGFUL CON-
TRIBUTION TO THE AVAILABLE FUEL SUPPLY FOR AVIATION.
END QUOTE.

3. WE RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED
TO SUGGEST TO PANSA THAT REF A BE WITHDRAWN AND THAT THE
AGARD REPORT BE REFERRED TO THE DEFENSE RESEARCH GROUP
OR OTHER COMPETENT PANEL. STRAUSS-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO00121
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770191/baaabbdcc.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 959084de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3679936
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGARD REPORT ON FUTURE FUELS FOR AVIATION
TAGS: MARR NATO
To: STATE SECDEF MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/959084de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009